

June 22.

TRAP MADE HAUL OF BIG MACKEREL.

HEATH BROTHERS SECURED 120
OFF KETTLE ISLAND YESTERDAY.

"Where is the elusive mackerel?" is the great question now asked on every side, and no one seems to know. The seining fleet which was at Cape Shore are now out on the Block Island ground, where the prospects are reported quite good and the netters appear to find fish.

Some half dozen netters at Newport today have good catches one of them, sch. Uncle Sam having a fine fare of 6700 mackerel. There is also one seiner there with 850 large mackerel. It may be that the fish will make their appearance in that section and vessels will make some good hauls.

Some of the Cape Shore seiners did not call at their home port but went direct to the Block Island ground, and have not yet been heard from. Should the fishing out there prove a failure, a number of skippers contemplate going to North Bay.

The receipts of mackerel at Boston last week were 150 barrels salt mackerel and 479 barrels foreign salt mackerel a total of 624 barrels. For the same week last year, 3545 barrels were received from home ports and 255 barrels from foreign ports, a total of 3800 barrels.

Fresh mackerel at Boston for the week ending today were 1556 barrels domestic and 61 barrels of foreign, total 1617 barrels. For the same week last year 5382 barrels of domestic mackerel and 2750 barrels foreign mackerel, a total of 8132 barrels, were received. This shows a large falling off over that of one year ago.

The Cape Shore catch of mackerel to date is 1738 barrels against 13,964 barrels to this time last year.

The catch of fresh mackerel to date is 13,964 barrels against 26,467 barrels at this time last year.

The Canadian Fish Bureau of Thursday last report 600 mackerel being taken in traps at Yarmouth and scarce at Isaac's Harbor and Alberton, P. E. I. At Point Escuminac, entrance of Bay Chaleur, mackerel were reported quite plentiful by net fishermen, but nowhere else along the provincial coast were any reported being taken.

The Canadian Fish Bureau of Saturday last reports a few mackerel being taken at various places along the Nova Scotia coast, but quite plentiful at Alberton, P. E. I.

A Louisburg, C. B., despatch says that the run of spring mackerel is about over, and the catch on the whole is far below that of last year. The decrease in the catch of mackerel will be a source of loss to many of the fishermen, who went to a heavy expense in fitting out for these fish, and got but very small catches. While a few fishermen have done better than last year, the majority have but small catches, and some did not get any. The fact of the mackerel running far off shore, and stormy weather prevailing almost continuously while the fish were about accounts for the smallness of the catch of fish.

Heath Bros.' Trap at Magnolia Took 120 Mackerel Yesterday.

The mackerel have struck in Massachusetts Bay and quite a fleet of netters have arrived to pursue the fishing in those waters. Heath Bros.' trap off Kettle island, Magnolia, ensnared 120 big mackerel yesterday. The majority of them weighed from 3.1-2 to 4 pounds and 37 of them weighed 2.1-2 pounds. They were all purchased by John M. Dennison, the local fish dealer.

Seiners at Newport.

Sch. George Parker, 850 fresh mackerel.

Netters at Newport

Sch. Alice, 250 fresh mackerel.
Sch. Uncle Sam, 6700 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Sarah, 700 fresh mackerel.
Sch. Bessie, 700 fresh mackerel.
Sch. Reliance, 1000 fresh mackerel.
Sch. Massasoit, 1700 fresh mackerel.

Mackerel Sales.

The fare of 102 barrels of salt mackerel brought in yesterday by sch. Massachusetts was sold to the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Company at \$15.50 per barrel.

This disposes of all the mackerel that has been landed here this season from the Cape Shore seiners.

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COUNSEL REFERRED TO BAY OF FUNDY IN HEADLAND ARGUMENT

Attempts to Prove Alleged Fishing There Was Done in Open Sea.

Does Not However Go Into Details Regarding Seizures.

When the Hague Tribunal began its fourth day's session of Thursday, June 9, Sir Robert Finlay took up the matter again of the action of the French on the west coast of Newfoundland, in warning off American vessels and the statement in the argument of the United States that during the period between 1819 and 1836, the United States fishermen were in the habit of fishing in the bays without challenge.

Speaking to the latter point, Sir Robert contended that in regard to the fishing during that time of Americans in the Bay of Fundy, as claimed in the United States case, it would be found that instead of fishing in the Bay of Fundy, the vessels in question fished on Grand Menan bank and Muir ledges, which are outside of the island of Grand Menan and which according to the British contention are outside of the Bay of Fundy, for according to the statement of Sir Robert, the British claim that the line of the Bay of Fundy is from Briar island, across to the island of Grand Menan and that all outside of that is in the open sea.

At this point, the charts which were provided by the case of the United States side of the case were intently examined by court and counsel on both sides, and then Sir Robert proceeded, but not before the members of the court had

Asked Several Questions Regarding the Location

of all the points mentioned above.

Sir Robert contended that these banks to the southward of Grand Menan could not be relied on in support of the United States contention of American fishermen fishing in the Bay of Fundy. He did say that the term "Bay of Fundy" may be loosely used with regard to some extent of waters to the south of Grand Menan island, but again referred to this line of limit to the bay, claiming that the line, as he stated it, was recognized by every one as the bay limit.

He went on to claim that the United States contention that American fishermen were fishing in great numbers in the Bay of Fundy during the period above named was not true of the Bay of Fundy, but that the operations were carried on outside the bay limits.

Sir Robert then took up the seizures of a number of Lubec and other Maine ports vessels in 1824 by the British brig-of-war Dotterel and stated that in the depositions of some of the masters they claimed to be fishing in the Bay of Fundy, but in their later and more complete statements it was seen that they had actually been fishing on Grand Menan bank and Muir ledges, which according to the British contention, were outside the bay.

He read extracts from the statements of the masters of many of the seized craft and also of the commander of Dotterel, but did not go into the matter of the right or wrong of the seizures, as he took up the matter only to show where the crafts had been fishing and to show, from his point of view, that they had not been fishing in the Bay of Fundy, but outside of it.

He did say, however, that the vessels in question were seized or stopped, because it was thought they

Were Abusing Improperly the Privilege of Coming Into Grand Menan

and were engaged in some unlawful enterprise, either in the way of smuggling or otherwise; it really mattered not.

He then submitted to the court that the statement made in the case and argument of the United States, that these fishermen during this time, from the United States, had fished in the Bay of Fundy without being interfered with fell to the ground.

It will be noted that for the purposes of making this statement Sir Robert draws his own line as to what is the limit of the Bay of Fundy, and it will be interesting to Times readers to take down their charts or get out their atlas or geography and draw the line as Sir Robert does; from Briar island across to Grand Menan, and then they will at once see his contention and be able to form a personal opinion on the matter as to the real extent of the bay.

He also referred to a group of seizures made in the Bay of Fundy at Gulliver Hole in 1831, but made no comment on the same, beyond saying that he thought little was known as to the particulars.

Continuing, he claimed that it was only

About 1836 That the Question of Fishing in Bays Became Important,

owing to the circumstance that the mackerel supply on the American coasts failed and that the American fishermen came to the coasts of the British possessions, and notably into the Bay of Fundy, in pursuit of mackerel. It was then and not till then, he said, that the controversy as to bays came out. It was after 1836 that the question arose and it would be found that the United States government and fishermen asserted that they were entitled to come into the Bay of Fundy and similar bays, that that position was uniformly resisted by the colonial government and by the British government, although every disposition was shown on the part of the British government, to ease the friction which was necessarily occasioned and to endeavor to arrive at some pacific settlement of a troublesome question.

He read from Lyman's "Diplomacy of the United States" in the discussion of the provisions of the treaty of 1818, this sentence: "We have lost the Bay of Chaleurs fishing, so important formerly as to confer a name on a particular description of fish as well as vessels." He also quoted other speeches and documents with the intent to show that under the provisions of the treaty of 1818, with the claimed British "headland" theory as his basis, that we had not the right of fishing in bays.

Seizures Became Numerous After 1852.

He said that the controversy died away in 1845 and there was a period of peace, probably of acquiescence in the British position, they having conceded, as a matter of grace, the Bay of Fundy, and acquiescence in the British position with regard to other bays; but in 1852 the controversy was reopened and seizures became numerous in the Bay of Fundy and Bay of Chaleur, while the rights at the Magdalen islands were disputed.

Sir Robert referred briefly to the seizure of the Washington on May 10, in the Bay of Fundy, but made little comment on it, although he did take up some of the official correspondence. The seizures of the Argus off the coast of Great Britain, was also briefly referred to.

Sir Robert then read Lord Aberdeen's letter of March, 1845, in which the latter, after considering the seizures of the Aberdeen and Argus, stated that Her Majesty's government were still constrained to deny the right of the United States citizens under the treaty of 1818 to fish in that part of the Bay of Fundy which, from its geographical position may properly be considered as included in Her Majesty's possessions, and that while they still felt bound to maintain these positions as a matter of right, they were nevertheless

Not Insensible to the Advantages Which Would Accrue.

to both countries from a relaxation of

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the exercise of that right; to the United States as conferring a material benefit on their fishing trade; and to Great Britain and the United States conjointly and equally, by the removal of a fertile source of disagreement between them.

The relaxation made in the case of the Bay of Fundy, Sir Robert said, was expressed by Lord Aberdeen to be absolutely a matter of good feeling with the view of promoting friendly relations between the two countries, reserving the absolute assertion of right and stating that it was not to affect the case of any other bay on the coast. Then in 1852 the question again became a pressing one, Sir Robert stating that under just what circumstances he did not exactly know; but there appeared to be rumors that vessels had been dispatched by the British government for a stricter enforcement of the supposed rights of Great Britain with regard to the fisheries. It did not appear he said that the rumors were well founded, but a conference was opened and the controversy ended happily in the treaty of rectiprocity of 1854.

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LARGE HERRING AGAIN PLENTY.

Left Coast 25 Years Ago in Company With Mackerel.

To the Editor of the Times:—I read the Gloucester Times of June 16, and I do not agree with you on the prospects of a catch of mackerel this year, unless medium or small mackerel strike our shore. Of course \$15½ for large Cape Shore mackerel is a good price, as later when these large mackerel show up they will be fat and worth from \$20 to \$30 per barrel.

For the first time in 25 years, large herring have struck the Maine and Massachusetts coast, and about 1000 barrels have been caught. The most of them have been taken in and frozen by the cold storage companies, up to 25 years since these kind of herring always struck the Maine and Massachusetts coast and left our shores the same time as mackerel.

The herring extend all along the coast as far east as Long Island, Mt. Desert, and were caught in schools of from 60 to 80 barrels, by seiners all on same day, which indicates a big body of herring. They are the same kind of herring that left our coast with the mackerel and thousands of barrels of these herring were caught in September, October and November. From 50,000 to 75,000 barrels were packed in Portland in barrels and were called Portland shore herring. Gloucester and Boston packed many more.

These herring when they first come are very fat and cannot be cured round so they will keep through the summer, but by fall they are full of spawn and milt and are very poor, and in September, October and November went into the Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire rivers to spawn, where thousands of barrels were caught in gill nets and cured round and packed in barrels and branded Portland shore round herring.

Mixed up with the herring being caught here are a few mackerel that weigh from three-quarters to one pound. Each year since, after these herring struck or about July 1, the mackerel struck in abundance. The old time fishermen who are at present engaged in catching these herring report that they never saw so much red seed, (herring and mackerel feed), on our coast as now, and where this seed is found in abundance both herring and mackerel are found in abundance. They also report whales and gannets very plenty, which is also a good indication that the mackerel later will come in abundance.

C. A. D.

Portland, Me.

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Will Repair at East Boston.

After discharging her cargo of fish at T wharf yesterday, sch. Harriet of this port was towed to East Boston, yesterday afternoon, by the tug Juno, to be hauled out on the ways to have repairs made to stop the leak caused by the vessel striking on the Rose and Crown shoal.

Swordfishing Catches.

Sch. Valentina, Capt. Charles O'Neill which arrived at Boston yesterday, reports sch. Yankee with 10 fish, sch. Nokomis with 12, and sch. Rose Standish, 11 fish.

To Fit for Swordfishing.

The mackerel netting schs. Blanche F. Irving and Florida returned from South today and will now fit out for swordfishing.

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PRICES OF FISH HAVE DROPPED.

Large Receipts at Boston Relieved Barren Market.

Another large batch of arrivals are reported at Boston today, and receipts in consequence are quite liberal. Prices, however, of all kinds of ground fish have dropped to a minimum for the hot weather somewhat retards shipments.

While there are no large single fares of fish, the aggregate landed by the large number of vessels is sufficient to supply all demands at much lower prices than was expected. It was thought that some others of the swordfishers would be in today, for sch. Valentina, which arrived yesterday, reports a number of them with from 10 to 15 fish, which doubtless will be in during the week.

Another arrival at Boston today is one of the netting fleet with 800 large fresh mackerel, which sold at 18 and 25 cents each.

The outlook at present time is that the market will be well supplied for the next week or two, for many of the vessels out will be in between now and July 4. Then bait along shore is a little more plentiful, so that the fishermen will not be hampered for a supply.

The receipts and prices in detail are:

Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Gladys and Nellie, 35,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 7000 hake.
Sch. Leo, 7000 haddock, 4000 cod, 1,000 pollock.
Sch. Athena, 4000 haddock, 5300 cod, 6000 pollock.
Sch. Edith Silveira, 15,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 2000 pollock.
Sch. Clara G. Silva, 4000 haddock, 1,500 cod, 2500 hake.
Sch. Flora S. Nickerson, 1000 haddock, 40,000 hake.
Sch. Joseph P. Johnson, 22,000 cod.
Sch. Juniata, 7000 haddock, 18,000 cod, 12,000 pollock.
Sch. Genesta, 5500 haddock, 5000 cod.
Sch. Joseph P. Manta, 4000 cod, 15,000 pollock.
Sch. E. C. Hussey, 18,000 cod.
Sch. Regina, 20,000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 7000 hake.
Sch. Grace Darling, 22,000 pollock.
Sch. Helen B. Thomas, 12,000 haddock, 12,000 cod.
Sch. Nettie Franklin.
Sch. Joseph H. Cromwell, 15,000 cod.
Sch. Thalia, 8000 haddock, 3000 cod.
Sch. W. H. Reed, 800 mackerel.
Sch. Eva Avina, 9000 haddock, 1000 cod, 2000 pollock.
Sch. Mary J. Ward, 2000 cod, 2000 pollock.
Haddock, \$1.35 to \$1.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$2.25; market cod, \$1.50 to \$1.75; large hake, \$2.25; pollock, 80c; mackerel, 18c and 25c each.

Portland Fishery Notes.

Portland is now rapidly coming to the fore as one of the largest halibut ports on the coast. Two more good sized fares arrived Monday and were sold to J. W. Trefethen. The Margaret had 7000 pounds of fresh halibut, brought from Labrador and Anticosti Island. In addition she had 7000 pounds of fletched halibut and 15,000 pounds of salt fish which were taken to Gloucester. The sch. Catherine Burke which came in from the Georges banks had a fare of 13,000 pounds of halibut which was sold here and 2000 pounds of salt fish which she took to Gloucester.

The well known fishing schooner Ella M. Doughty, owned by Sargent, Lord & Company, Portland, is certainly in hard luck. About two months ago her owners fitted her out for a salt cod fishing trip to the Cape Shore of Nova Scotia, under the command of Capt. Joseph Burgess of Port Matoon, N. S. Since her departure the owners have received nothing from her and have in addition been obliged to make several remittances to defray her running expenses. Unknown to the owners the schooner arrived outside Portland harbor Friday, but did not come into port until after dark when the captain anchored her in Cushing Island Cove and came ashore in his dory.

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THREE FARES AT THIS PORT.

Two From Georges and One Shacker From Quero.

Another day opens with light receipts at this port, there being but three arrivals here today with fish, two of whom come from Georges, whose aggregate catch is but 58,000 pounds of salt cod, and one from shacking, sch. Mary F. Curtis, with 90,000 pounds of salt and fresh cod. One of the Cape Shore seiners is in, but like others who preceded her, she has no fish.

The few arrivals and small receipts were hardly expected for usually they are a number of vessels arriving at this time of the year, when large returns from them are in evidence.

It was expected that the dory hand-line fleet would be arriving at this time for many of them have been out since early spring, but these vessels are reported not having any degree of success, so that their voyages will be greatly prolonged. The spare boats still continue to make small catches and the amount of fish landed by them the last three or four weeks have been the smallest in many years.

The pollock seiners found no fish yesterday and all returned last evening empty. One of the little steamers took 20 barrels of herring which were sold as bait to the boat fishermen.

Some of the halibut catchers have been out quite a while and doubtless this is caused by them going up north and a larger distance from home.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Mary F. Curtis, Quero Bank, shacking, 60,000 lbs. salt cod, 30,000 lbs. fresh cod, 500 lbs. halibut.
Sch. Cecil H. Low, Georges, 17,000 lbs. salt cod.
Sch. Hattie L. Trask, Georges, drifting, 40,000 lbs. salt cod.
Sch. Elizabeth W. Numan, via Boston, Steamer Florence and Mildred, shore, seining, 20 bbls. herring.
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, via Boston.
Sch. Ida S. Brooks, via Boston.
Sch. Thomas Brundage, Rips.
Sch. Blanche Irving, netting.
Sch. Florida, netting.
Sch. Rose Dorothea, via Boston.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, haddock-ing.
Sch. Arcadia, seining.
Sch. Claudia, halibuting.
Sch. Diana, seining.
Sch. Little Fannie, netting.
Sch. Mattie D. Brundage, pollock seining.

Today's Fish Market.

Cape Shore salt mackerel, \$15.50 per bbl.
Large halibut cod, \$3 per cwt.; medium cod, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.
Trawl salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.
Large salt handline Georges cod, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.00.
Trawl bank cod, large, \$3 per cwt.; medium, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.
Outside sales drift Georges salt cod, \$3.50 per cwt. for large and \$3 for mediums.
Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2; snappers, \$1.
Salt pollock, \$1.25 per cwt.; salt haddock, \$1.25; salt hake, \$1.25.
Round pollock, 70 cts. per cwt.; dressed pollock, 75 cts.
Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$2 per cwt.; medium do., \$1.65; Eastern cod, large, \$1.60; medium cod, \$1.40; cusk, \$1.60 for large, \$1.20 for medium and 50c for snappers; haddock, 80 cts.; hake, 90 cts.; pollock, round, 65 cts.; dressed, 70 cts.

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Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Harvard arrived at Shelburne on Friday and cleared.
Schs. Tacoma and Monitor arrived at Canso on Saturday.